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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicants : Hiroshi SOGABE et al.

Group Art Unit : 1774

Appl. No. : 10/050,989

Examiner : Merrick L. DIXON

Filed : January 22, 2002

Confirmation No. : 7810

For : TRANSMISSION BELT AND METHOD OF TREATMENT FOR  
BONDING WITH POLY-P-PHENYLENE BENZOBISOXAZOLE  
FIBER

**FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement that was filed on April 4, 2002, Applicants hereby submit a copy of a French Search Report from the French Patent Office dated March 29, 2004 , with respect to patent family member French Patent Application No. FR 0200874, in which the French Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-012370, which was published on January 19, 1999, together with an English language Abstract of the same; This document was cited as a document particularly relevant if combined with another document (Category Y) particularly pertinent to claims 1-11 of the European application.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-303044, which was published on October 31, 2000, together with an English language Abstract of the same; This

document was cited as a document particularly relevant if combined with another document (Category Y), particularly pertinent to claims 1-11 of the European application.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-176332, which was published on July 8, 1997, together with an English language Abstract of the same; This document was cited as a document particularly relevant if taken alone (Category X), particularly pertinent to claim 1 of the European application.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 7-26029, which was published on January 27, 1995, together with an English language Abstract of the same; This document was cited as a document indicating the technological background (Category A).

U.S. Patent No. 5,891,561 to KINOSHITA et al., which issued on April 6, 1999. This document was cited as a document indicating the technological background (Category A).

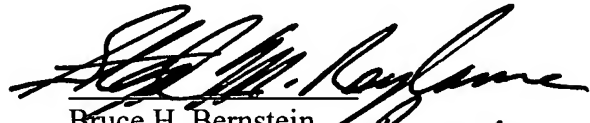
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicants furthermore certify that each item of information contained in the present Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Since this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after

mailing of a Notice of Allowance, a check in the amount of \$180.00 is also enclosed herewith so as to place this statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (d). However, the Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge payment of any necessary additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

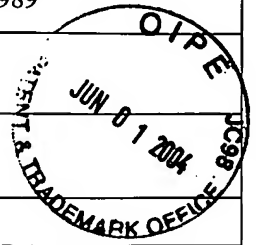
Respectfully Submitted,  
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Application No.  
10/050,989

Group  
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.